

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 8, and 13 are amended and new Claims 19-21 are added by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 8, and 13 and new Claims 19-21 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101; Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Mackintosh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,784, hereinafter “Mackintosh”); and Claims 1-3 and 5-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Mackintosh in view of Song et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20030211843, hereinafter “Song”). Claim 4 was indicated as including allowable subject matter.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claim 4 includes allowable subject matter.

Applicants and Applicants’ representatives thank Examiners Anderson and Safaipour for the courtesy of the interview granted to Applicants’ representatives on April 28, 2008. During the interview, differences between the claims and the cited references were discussed. Examiner Safaipour agreed that a proposed amendment to Claim 1 appeared to overcome the rejection of this claim. This proposed amendment to Claim 1 is presented herewith.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Mackintosh, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 18 recites in part:

updating associated information concerning a content broadcasted by a broadcasting station after a content starts to be broadcast;

¹See, e.g., the specification at page 60, line 16 to page 62, line 17.

accepting an acquisition request for the associated information from a broadcast receiver receiving a broadcast signal of the content;

setting the associated information stored in the database in accordance with timing of accepting the acquisition request as transmitted information;

transmitting the associated information to the broadcast receiver; and

resetting the transmitted information as associated information of a next program for transmission when the on-air program changes to the next program.

In contrast, Mackintosh only describes that information pertaining to broadcast materials can be sent in real-time as the broadcast materials are being broadcast, or may be sent in advance of the delivery of the broadcast materials.² Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Mackintosh does not teach or suggest updating associated information concerning a content broadcasted by a broadcasting station *after* a content starts to be broadcast as recited in Claim 18. Therefore, Claim 18 is not anticipated by Mackintosh and is patentable thereover.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1, 8, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Mackintosh in view of Song, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claims 1 and 13 recite in part “assigning a service session ID to the broadcast receiver and a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection.”

The outstanding Office Action conceded that Mackintosh does not teach or suggest assigning a service session ID and cited Song as describing this feature.³ In this regard, the outstanding Office Action appeared to cite the multicast IP address of the mobile station of Song as “a service session ID.” However, the multicast IP address of the mobile station is not assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection. Further, Song does not describe assigning a valid period for the multicast IP address.

²See Mackintosh, column 5, lines 38-47.

³See the outstanding Office Action at page 6, lines 14-21.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Song does not teach or suggest “assigning a service session ID … ***and*** a valid period ***for the service session ID***” as defined in amended Claims 1 and 13. Consequently, Claims 1 and 13 (and Claims 2-6 and 14-17 dependent therefrom) are patentable over Mackintosh in view of Song.

Amended Claim 8 recites in part “an assignment unit configured to assign a service session ID to the broadcast receiver and a valid period for the service session ID, said service session ID assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection.”

As noted above with respect to Claims 1 and 13, Song only describes that a mobile station sends its multicast IP address to a base station.⁴ However, the multicast IP address of the mobile station is not assigned at each acquisition request to identify a current communication connection. Further, Song does not describe any element that assigns a valid period for the multicast IP address. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Song does not teach or suggest “an assignment unit” as defined in amended Claim 8. Consequently, Claim 8 (and Claims 9-12 dependent therefrom) is also patentable over Mackintosh in view of Song.

Finally, new Claims 19-21 are supported at least by the specification at page 60, line 16 to page 62, line 17. As new Claims 19-21 are dependent from Claim 1, Claims 19-21 are patentable for least the reasons described above with respect to Claim 1. Further, new Claims 19-21 recites subject matter that further defines over Mackintosh in view of Song. Accordingly, new Claims 19-21 are believed to be allowable.

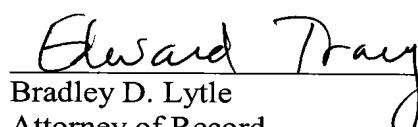
⁴See Song, paragraph 68.

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Accordingly, the outstanding rejections are traversed and the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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